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Former CES Environmental CEO charged in toxic transportation case



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[Matthew Bowman](#), the former CEO of Houston-based **CES Environmental Services Inc.**, was recently charged with conspiracy to illegally transport hazardous materials, which allegedly resulted in the deaths of two employees, for another company he owned, Port Arthur Chemical and Environmental Services LLC.

The U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas and the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division [filed a 13-count indictment](#) against Bowman and Port Arthur Chemical and Environmental Services (PACES).

According to the indictment, PACES allegedly transported hazardous materials illegally with false documents and without placards. During the transportation, workers allegedly were not protected from exposure to hazardous gasses, which resulted in two employee deaths in 2008 and 2009.

PACES was in business from November 2008 to November 2010, and it produced caustic materials for paper mills.

The indictment claims that while at PACES, Bowman was responsible for approving and directing its production operations and employee safety, among other things.

Each count in the indictment carries a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a fine of \$250,000. The counts for the corporation carry a maximum fine of \$500,000.

Both PACES and CES Environmental previously filed for bankruptcy.

Molly Ryan covers manufacturing, technology, the Port and logistics for the Houston Business Journal. For her breaking stories and industry insights, [follow her on Twitter](#).